

11. *Amended*
wherein the digital subscriber line transport signal is configured to include the frequency and phase information associated with the transmitter-side timing reference signal by providing in the transmitter a local oscillator adapted to receive the transmitter-side timing reference signal as an external timing reference.

9. (Amended) An apparatus for use in communicating information in a communication system, the apparatus comprising:

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a transmitter operative to process a payload signal and a transmitter-side timing reference signal to generate a digital subscriber line transport signal including frequency and phase information associated with the transmitter-side timing reference signal, and to transmit the transport signal to a receiver, such that the receiver can recover at least a portion of the frequency and phase information therefrom and derive therefrom a receiver-side timing reference signal used to control timing in the receiver;

wherein the digital subscriber line transport signal is configured to include the frequency and phase information associated with the transmitter-side timing reference signal by providing in the transmitter a local oscillator adapted to receive the transmitter-side timing reference signal as an external timing reference.

17. (Amended) An apparatus for use in communicating information in a communication system, the apparatus comprising:

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a receiver operative to receive a digital subscriber line transport signal including frequency and phase information associated with a transmitter-side time reference signal and a transmitter of the system, the transport signal being generated in the transmitter by processing a payload signal and a transmitter-side timing reference signal, wherein the receiver is further operative to recover at least a portion of the frequency and phase information from the transport signal and derive therefrom a receiver-side timing reference signal used to control timing in the receiver;

wherein the digital subscriber line transport signal is configured to include the frequency and phase information associated with the transmitter-side timing reference signal by providing in the

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final.

transmitter a local oscillator adapted to receive the transmitter-side timing reference signal as an external timing reference.
